

AMENDMENT

Kindly amend the application, without prejudice, as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend page 5, lines 12-15, to read as follows:

In one aspect the present invention provides a promoter-transactivator system for inducible high-level mammalian cell gene expression with the option of cell growth control comprising

(a) a promoter construct (IRFE promoter) having the general structure:

→mRNA
[MPSV-E]-[IRF-1-binding sites]-[CMV]—DNA, wherein

MPSV-E means MPSV enhancer repeats of the sequence:

GCTAGCTTAAGTAACGCCATTTTGCAAGGCATGGGAAAAATACATAACTGAGAATAGAGAAG
TTCAGATCAAGGTCAGGAACAGAGAAACAGGAGAATATGGGCCAAACAGGATATCTGTGGTA
AGCAGTTCCTGCCCCGCTCAGGGCCAAGAACAGTTGGAACAGGAGAATTGGGCCAAACAGGA
TATCTGTGGTAAGCAGTTCCTGCCCCGCCTCAGGGCCAAGAACAGATGGTCCCCAGATGCGGT
CCCGCCCTCAGCAGTTTCTAGA, (SEQ ID NO: 1)

or isofunctional variants thereof obtained by substitution, insertion or deletion of one
or more nucleotides,

IRF-1-binding sites means the sequence:

GATCCCTTCTCGGGAAATGGAAACTGAAAATCAGATCCCTTCTCGGGAAATGGAAACTGAAA
ATCAGATC, (SEQ ID NO: 2)

or isofunctional variants thereof obtained by substitution, insertion or deletion of one
or more nucleotides, and

CMV means a minimal promoter of the sequence:

TGGCGTGTACGGTGGGAGGCCTATATAAGCAGAGCTCGTTTAGTGAACCGTCAAACCGTCAA
ACCGCGGAAGCT, (SEQ ID NO: 3)

or isofunctional variants thereof obtained by substitution, insertion or deletion of one or more nucleotides,

and

(b) a transactivator construct coding for a fusion protein comprising IRF-1 and the estrogen receptor.